



the RARA RAG

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MAY 2002

NO. 9

Elections And Old Timer's Night — Theme On "Firsts"

Marykay Vesco, KC2DPG

We would like to invite and welcome everyone to attend **Our Annual Meeting** May 3rd, 2002 at 8:00 PM. As usual, our meeting will be held at the Henrietta Fire Hall, 3129 E Henrietta Rd. This is a very important meeting for all of our members to be involved in, **election night**. As part of our business portion of the meeting, elections will be held to elect our Officers and our 7 Board of Directors for the 2002-2003 season. In addition, the general members must also determine our dues for the upcoming fiscal year.

After the business portion we would like to welcome you to "Old Timer's Night" brought to you by our very own Club Historian Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN. K2MP is also the Curator for the world class *A.W.A. Electronic Communication Museum* located in Bloomfield, New York. RARA's OT Night has typically been a

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Annual Meeting

Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

Each year the annual meeting for RARA is held in May. This meeting is used for the purpose of electing the Officers, Board of Directors, and the dues structure for the following year. Therefore it is important for each member to attend this meeting. Not only that, but after the business portion of the meeting you will enjoy the Old Timer's Night being presented by Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN.

The following is a letter that was sent to Peter Fournia, W2SKY from the nominations committee and was read at the April meeting:

All Nominees will submit Bios to RARA RAG Editor.

Officers Nominated:

VP: George Platteter, AA2FO —
aa2fo@rpo.net

Secretary: Bill Kasperkosk, WB2SXY —
wb2sxy@arrl.net

Treasurer: Dick Goslee, K2VCZ —
rgoslee@rochester.rr.com

Board Of Directors Nominated:

Dale Fravel, N2LWY — n2lwy@arrl.net

Greg Michels, KC2GXV —
michels@sigmadyne.com

Jack Tripp, W2JAT — w2jat@arrl.net

Keith Freeberg, N2BEL — kff@frontiernet.net

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH — n2eh@frontiernet.net

Bill Hopkins, AA2YV — wlhopkins@naz.edu

George Masny, KA2GPJ — ka2gpj@arrl.net

Robert Krenzer, KC2FNE — RLK65@aol.com

Ed Schmitt, KC2ISI — owlshadow@lycos.com

By Laws:

Officers and BOD serve a term of 1 year until the next annual meeting.

Vice President automatically becomes Presi-

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RARA Annual Meeting

May 3, 2002

8:00 PM

Henrietta Fire Hall,
3129 E. Henrietta Rd.

Election Night and
Old Timers' Night

With

Theme on "Firsts"

Presented by
Ed Gable, K2MP and Staff

the RARA RAG

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Club Historian: Ed Gable, K2MP
License Testing Director: George Platteter, AA2FO
Membership Chairman: Keith Bozek, N3HGN
Hamfest General Chairman: Harold Smith, K2HC
Public Relations: Keith Freeberg, N2BEL
License Class Director: Norm Turner, WB2LQB
Web Page Administrator: Peter Fournia, W2SKY
Club Station Trustee: Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH

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RARA Life Membership is available for twenty times the annual dues.

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Prez Says

Peter Fournia, W2SKY

We must be having fun. I'm seeing and hearing of more interest in amateur radio. Our monthly meeting attendance is up. The same is true of donations, public service signups and the license classes. Your RARA officers and BOD have been working hard to make the organization worthy of your membership and activity. I feel gratified by the above numbers. But, the total membership numbers tell us there is much more to do.

I appreciate the spirit, enthusiasm and support from the officers, BOD and committee chairman who have operated RARA this year. There are a large number of people who actively participate for the good of this diverse and fulfilling hobby. I have been constantly encouraged by the willingness of them to help on the numerous tasks required to operate the organization.

Thank you for your participation. I would like to step through the list of contributions made by each member but this newsletter doesn't have the space. You should read the list of names on page two of this RAG. There are 21 of them and several additional people were missed on the list. Please thank them for their time and effort. Beyond that there are people in other organizations whom we have worked with. We appreciate their support and contributions to the successes of this year.

Lets continue to have fun. As you do, consider sharing your enjoyment with others. They do need to hear from you. There are lots of opportunities to do that such as our general meeting (May 3rd), the Rochester Hamfest and at the June 15th picnic to name a few. Of course you can go beyond the informal and enjoyable socializing to our more structured activities: elmering, teaching, public service events, committees, leadership, officers... Lets continue the enjoyment of this diverse hobby. Pick the activity that you like... do it... share it with others.

Thank you for your participation in RARA. See you at our coming events.

NEXT RAG DEADLINE
MAY 10, 2002

RARA Picnic - June 15th, 2002, Ellison Park

Marykay Vesco, KC2DPG

Lets make this year's picnic better than ever. Please join us at the South Lodge in Ellison Park after 11:00 AM on June 15th. Ellison Park is on Blossom Road between Browncroft Blvd and Blossom Road. Use the Blossom Road exit of NY Route 590 and head east. There will be a sign to the South Lodge at the Park entrance on Blossom Rd.

Look forward to a relaxed picnic with your fellow hams and significant others. We will also have a FOX HUNT to find a hidden transmitter, so bring your HT and your best body fade technique. We will also have some other games and great fun as well as some great food. RARA will provide the meat & rolls in addition to the condiments and plate wares. I would invite you to bring a dish to pass or a dessert. Just send me an e-mail to kc2dpg@aol.com or call me during the day at 334-5000 so that we don't end up with several dishes of the same thing.

Our annual picnic is one of the benefits of being a member of RARA. Come and have a good time.

LIFE, ACCIDENT & HEALTH AGENT

MARYKAY VESCO

KC2DPG

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East Rochester, NY 14445
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Public Service 2002

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

The new year has started and this brings with it a new crop of Public Service events. We have dates set for most and will have all the dates for the next copy of the RARA RAG. The dates as of this printing are listed below:

Tour de Cure - Saturday, June 8, 2002

Stuart Horse Trails - Saturday, July 27, 2002

Walnut Hill Driving Competition - Wednesday through Sunday, August 14-18, 2002

R. E. Ginna pre drill -- No Date as yet

R. E. Ginna Drill - Tuesday, October 22, 2002

Pumpkin Patrol - Wednesday and Thursday, October 30 & 31, 2002

This is the list as of March 6, 2002. If you have not participated in the past or would like more information on any of the above events, feel free to call me at 624-1929 and I will be glad to assist you. The ones that require registration with the county are the R.E. Ginna pre-drill and the drill.

I also will be making arrangements for a tour of the new OEP/EOC office on Scottsville road. If you signed up for the tour at the March meeting, I will be notifying you by mail or in the RAG as soon as the date has been set. If you did not sign up or you were not at the meeting you can sign up for it by writing me at home or call me on the telephone at (585) 624-1929.

I am looking forward to working with everyone again this summer.

Wanted: Operators and staff for the RARA Hamfest booth. Enjoyable activities are being planned

Contact Peter Fournia at 377-0535 or w2sky@arrl.net.

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Hamfest Programs – Part IV

Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

One month to go to the Rochester Hamfest/ Atlantic Division Convention held May 31, June 1 and 2 this year. Is everyone ready for a great time at this fun filled event? You have just a short time left to get your advanced admittance tickets and your tickets for the Awards Banquet. Everyone will want to attend this dinner and be in the audience as your fellow Hams and friends receive awards for their many different accomplishments. Also, this is a great time to enjoy each other's company and have your eyeball QSO's while enjoying a casual dinner.

During the past three months this column has given you a brief description of what the programs are going to be about this year. This month will show the meeting rooms and schedules for these programs so that you can schedule your time accordingly. So here we go and remember that all programs are on Saturday June 1st except for the VE testing which is both Friday and Saturday.

Friday Afternoon

Room A On Second Floor

1:00-5:00 – VE Exams

Saturday Afternoon

Rooms 1 and 2 On The Dome Floor

1:00-5:00 – VE Exams

Saturday Room A

Located On The Second Floor

9:30-11:30 – The Rochester VHF Group's Forum

12:00-1:00 – The ARRL Forum

1:30-3:00 – Amateurs Radio's (ARES and RACES) Role On And After September 11, 2001

3:30-4:30 – Hands On Antenna Construction

Saturday Room B

Located On The Second Floor

9:00-10:00 – Computer Aided Antenna Design

10:30-11:30 – Traffic Handling

1:00-1:30 – Western New York Section Meeting

2:00-4:00 – Atlantic Division Affiliated Club Conference

Saturday Room 3

Located On The Dome Floor

9:00-10:00 – Army MARS Meeting

10:30-11:30 – Joint MARS Forum

11:30-12:00 – Navy-Marine Corps MARS Meeting

1:00-2:00 – National Weather Service Presents Derecho Of 1998

Saturday All Day

On The Dome Floor

W2“RUF” And Ready Code Proficiency Tests

Saturday Afternoon

On The Dome Floor

Noon till – DX Card Certification

Remember, you have to refer back to the last few issues of the *RAG* if you want more info on any of the above topics. Take advantage of these programs to learn new things or just to be informed of what is taking place around you. And above all, attend this year's Hamfest and enjoy yourself!!

Rochester Hamfest
May 31,
June 1 and 2,
2002

Election And Old Timers Night —

(Continued from page 1)

light hearted fun filled affair and this evening will be no exception as Ed and members of the museum staff will take you on a virtual tour of the much improved museum with the theme on “firsts.” Where can you see the world's first transistor radio? Where can you see the world's first cellular telephone? Where can you see the world's first FM transmitter? The answer to all of these and more is the A.W.A. Museum. Ed will also bring some interesting show n' tell items to amaze and surprise all of you. You won't want to miss the enhanced vintage theme door prizes for this night either, so come on over, have some fun and enjoy a great evening. Refreshments will also be available.

WAS on "The Magic Band" Anyone Can Do It

I. J. Goodman, AF2K

I never started seriously collecting Grid Squares on the 6-meter band until mid-1997. One needs a fresh pursuit when your "want list" for new entities on the HF bands dwindles to a mere handful. So looking for a new grid to work on 50 MHz suddenly became an almost-daily obsession. And I figured that working Hawaii and Alaska on "The Magic Band" some day would be a miracle in itself, what with my modest 100 watts and 7-element Yagi.

But this past fall, the band came alive like never before, and there was suddenly an abundance of DX to be worked — at least for the northeast US. Cycle 23 was being very good to us with generous morning openings to Europe almost daily. On November 10th, the band opened to the far northwest and I snared my first of eight Alaskan grids. Five weeks later, a portable KH6 unexpectedly surfaced, with rare ideal propagation to east coast USA, and, like many other lucky ones in this area, I easily had the Aloha state in the log. With that, it was time to determine what I lacked for WAS.

Turns out I had never worked West Virginia — or so I thought. Commenced a diligent search through numerous old VHF contest logs from back in the days when I used to borrow a 6-meter rig for the January effort. Found a contest station callsign whose grid partially extended into WV, dropped the Trustee an e-mail, and was informed they always operated from a mountaintop site called Spruce Knob, WV. Made my day. Had their QSL in my SASE for #50 within a week. Local Field Checker K2MP ably processed the submission to the ARRL, and 50 MHz (all SSB) WAS Certificate #1142 was issued March 8, 2002.

If you have yet to try "The Magic Band", I urge you to give it some serious thought. A lot of fun and fresh challenges await you. And with 32,400 Grid Squares on the globe, you'll never run out of new ones to chase. Enjoy!

RARA Picnic
June 15, 2002
Ellison Park

RARA RAG 20 Years Ago, May 1982

Ed Gable, K2MP

The May meeting was on the technical side with a presentation by Mike McHugh, W2AV, speaking on Moon Bounce, or EME operations. Mike was well suited for such a presentation as his home station was worked worldwide on this mode. Tape recordings of his signal bouncing back from the moon made the talk even more interesting. The Rochester Hamfest also made front-page news with last minute information on this May 15th event. A full day of programming and flea marketing was scheduled and tickets at \$4.00 in advance were available from Ticket Chairman Ed Gable, K2MP. Reported as a Silent Key was Marion Noakes, W2UTF, who fifty years ago was the mimeograph operator who produced the *RARA RAG*. Rich McCracken, KA2CVN, wrote telling of the NYS Assembly Bill 10233, which would eliminate sales tax on Amateur Radio equipment sold in NYS. It didn't pass. Nominated for the RARA Board were KS2F, W2EBF, AF2K, KR2C, WA2HVT, K2NC, K2HC, KD2K and AC2K. Election report will be next month. The Rochester DX Assn. met on May 18th at the Colonial Hotel with program on best operating times for working specific new countries. Howie Davies, N2CUN, continued writing his *Cop's Column* with this month reporting on the progress of the Can of Worms improvement project. Norm Webb, K2PPO, continued as an advertiser for his Amateur equipment repair business and from the Want Ads, Irv, AF2K was looking for collectible auto Ham license plates.

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"Come On Down!"

Mike Rundle, N1OKL

The Rochester DX Association invites one and all to participate with us in our 2002 Field Day operation. Whether you are a newcomer, old-timer, VHF operator, or unlicensed and just interested in Ham Radio, at this year's Field Day event we have a station for you to operate. With the help of an RDXA member and experienced HF operator, we'll get you on the air and making contacts.

As stipulated by the ARRL, this year's Field Day emergency preparedness exercise will feature a "Get on the Air" (GOTA) station. The goal of the GOTA station is to provide the opportunity for as many people as possible to operate an amateur station and make contacts with other Field Day participants. Additionally, this year's rules have expanded Field Day to include ALL of the Americas. For the first time, long-haul DX contacts will be an integral part of the event.

The RDXA Field Day site is in Webster Park campground just South of Lake Ontario. Field Day runs for 24 hours beginning Saturday, 22 June at 1400 local time (2:00 PM). Webster Park Campground is located on the South side of Lake Road, West of the intersection of Holt Road and Lake Road. Head East on 104 and cross the Bay Bridge. Take Holt Road North from Route 104 to its end at Lake Road; turn left on Lake Road. Go West 0.6 mile and then turn South (left) off of Lake into Webster Park Campground. Drive past the camping area (on the left), where the road will change from paved to gravel. Continue straight 0.1 mile to the next open field and there you will find the RDXA Field Day operation in full swing.

Experience the thrill and excitement of HF operating in the annual ARRL Field Day emergency preparedness exercise. Make contacts across the country and around the world. Join the friendly and experienced hams of RDXA--first place winners in the 2001 Field Day event--and "Get on the Air" in Field Day 2002!

SILENT KEY

Joseph R. Gombatto, WB2CBX
March 14, 2002

Simple Things Every Club Member Can Do to Promote Amateur Radio.

Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

"Ham Radio, The World's Best Kept Secret!"
"Like the Man Who's Found Religion, We've Got to Spread the Word About Ham Radio."
"RARA Is Focused on the Members: Recruitment, Development and Retention."
"Communicate Enthusiasm!" Below are a few ways that you can do this. Look them over and practice those that you can.

At home, work, school, other clubs:

Hang your QSL card, or a picture of your rig, or both, on your office wall.

Have your call sign in EVERY e-mail signature block you send out, personal or business; be proud that you are a ham.

Have a world or country map hanging on your office wall. When someone takes an interest in the map, or goes on vacation, mention that you've talked to hams that live there. "It's 1 o'clock here and the hams in Europe are sitting down to dinner about now."

All of your friends, relatives and classmates/co-workers should know that you are an amateur radio operator, especially in the technology or engineering fields. They may have always been interested in ham radio but did not know someone to show them how to get involved.

When you're scheduled to work a public service event, tell your friends and co-workers that your ham radio club is providing volunteer communications. You might get people interested, or maybe, just more public service events.

When asked about Amateur Radio, enthusiastically discuss some of your recent or current ham radio experiences. This could help reactivate an inactive ham or spark an interest in others. Besides, enthusiasm spreads.

Let your employer know that you are a licensed amateur operator and that you and an entire body of other amateurs are available for

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Simple Things Every Club Member Can Do To Promote Amateur Radio —

(Continued from page 6)

health and welfare type messaging during communications emergencies.

On a nearby bulletin board, post ham articles about local school contacts with the ISS, or other general interest ham info, Hamfest or license class announcements.

On your personal web page mention that you are a ham radio operator and provide a link to RARA.

If you routinely write your name in your books, add your callsign, too.

At the Doctor's/Dentist's Office:

As mentioned elsewhere in the *RARA RAG*, recycle your old QST-CQ-73 Magazines at waiting rooms, barbershop, dentist, etc. with a label similar to the following (available from Dick Goslee):

COMPLIMENTARY COPY
PROVIDED BY THE ROCHESTER
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC. FOR INFO
CALL (585) 442-0587

On the Street: My Name is Joe, and, I'm a Ham:

Don't hide your HT -- make your call visible on the rig or hand mike. When people ask you what you are doing explain that it is ham radio, it's not hard, it's not expensive, it's a lot of fun and it's useful.

When in a consumer electronics store, always mention that you're a ham. Everyone, including prospective hams, overhear the discussions.

Leave your QSL card or drop off a *RARA RAG* or club contact sheet at your nearest Radio Shack.

Start up a conversation, put your QSL or business card with your call under the wipers of an unknown ham-license-plated vehicle, to remind them of just how friendly hams really are.

If you don't have ham vanity plates on your car, get a ham-related bumper or window sticker.

Wear some visible article of clothing with your

radio club patch or callsign printed on it.

On the Air: Use Extreme Courtesy:

Many people are listening including prospective hams and EVERY newspaper-radio-TV newsroom has VHF/UHF scanners.

Congratulate people publicly over the air. Make a good little fuss over someone's new license or upgrade or first ever country/xyz contact. Let them feel good about it. People join clubs because of activities; they stay because of fellowship.

Learn a simple greeting-word or phrase in several languages, to use during QSOs with foreign speakers. Just about all the DX operators learned enough QSO-English to get by, so give them a nod of respect in their native language.

On SSB or CW in every language, every DX ham understands "BEST TO UR FAMILY"

Send your QSL card to all SWL requests — ALWAYS. They are part of the next generation of radio enthusiasts. Make sure to encourage them in their radio endeavors in a personal note on your card.

Over the air, mention that last SWL QSL request you received, especially to DX stations from that same country. Send the SWL a local-interest postcard. Let your actions show that you are completely serious about inviting SWLs to become amateur radio operators.

The back of every one of your outbound QSL cards should have your handwritten note: "Thanks for the contact, hope to work u agn - 73"

All of these little things work. Be apart of making amateur radio continue to be great and a growing fraternity.

Historical Bits

Ed Gable, K2MP

- 1906 — Dr. Lee DeForest invents triode vacuum tube.
- 1927 — The first automobile radio appears in new autocars
- 1946 — FCC approves major shift in radio frequencies to move FM and TV to VHF.
Adds six meter Ham band and eliminates TV Ch 1.

Annual Meeting — (Continued from page 1)

dent for the following year.
Maximum of 7 BOD members.
Call for nominations at April meeting.
Elections at Annual Meeting in May.
Nomination committee composed of at least 3 full members to nominate a slate at the Annual Meeting.

Respectively submitted, **RARA Nomination Committee:**

Rich Koehn, K2UW
rkoehn@frontiernet.net

Warren Boudrie, AA2LQ
wboudrie@rochester.rr.com

Ray Pickens, WA2MYG
wa2myg@rochester.rr.com

Peter Fournia, W2SKY (president)
pfournia@rochester.rr.com

At that time nominations from the floor were opened by the President. Nominations from the floor will again be opened at the May meeting, prior to the elections. If you have someone that you would like to nominate, please talk to that person to be sure that they are willing to accept the nomination prior to the meeting.

As is customary each year the candidates that are running for an office are allowed to put a short biographical sketch of themselves in the RAG. The following are those Bios:

VICE PRESIDENT:

George Platteter, AA2FO

The motivation to become licensed as a ham was to obtain a Technician license enabling me to fly radio controlled model airplanes on 6 meters. My ham experience started with a novice course taught by Ed Holdsworth in the county office building used before 111 Westfall Rd. I was first licensed in 1982 as KA2OMH, followed by the General class, KD2UR, and finally on to Extra class, AA2FO, as my interest in amateur radio grew.

Becoming involved happened when asked to become a Volunteer Examiner for the testing program, followed shortly thereafter by becoming Contact Volunteer Examiner for the group and RARA License Testing Director. Being editor of the RARA RAG for several years

was also very enjoyable and rewarding.

The RARA organization and Amateur Radio have a very diverse and exciting range of interests. Common to them all is our intense interest in learning, keeping abreast of technologies, procedures, programs, etc., and having fun doing it. Our enjoyment of the hobby comes from personal achievements and social interactions while participating. Part of the enjoyment is sharing our experiences and talents with others.

RARA has many wonderful activities and programs. I want to continue them and encourage participation by our members. As Vice President, and later as President, I look forward to being able to enhance them and assure they meet the needs of current members and have the excitement to captivate future members.

SECRETARY:

Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

Bill Kasperkoski knows that our real-estate, our Amateur frequency assignment, is literally worth billions of dollars in auctions to commercial interests, so he encourages all experimentation, operation activity and testing, especially in our VHF/UHF/microwave bands. "We must keep our public-service face forward as this is the best argument that we have to retain our spectrum assignment. Amateur Radio is America's Best Kept Secret! Our club activities need to be more visible and in front of the public in every way that we can."

Bill has served this past year as the RARA Secretary, and contributed to the Public Relations committee. He has been volunteering as the general class theory instructor since 1997. First licensed in 1964, Bill holds an old Amateur Extra Class license, considers himself an avid CW rag chew operator and is serious about his QSLing chores. He has volunteered in the Thruway Pumpkin Patrol, the K2RRA/Hamfest talk-in-station, walk-a-thons, Monroe County FM Net and Skywarn Net control operator, Scout Jamborees On The Air, and special event stations.

In the military, Bill's experience was used at Fort Benning in an educational TV facility and overseas as the Training NCO for his USARV unit. Bill ran the (Kodak) Elmgrove 2-way radio, repeater and pager shop for several years. Bill holds a GROL, ex: FCC 1st Phone

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Annual Meeting — *(Continued from page 8)*

with Radar Endorsement, and worked in commercial radio and TV in the Rochester area, and as a network and microwave engineer for a wireless ISP. Currently Bill works in telephone Unix computer systems and data base administration.

As a Scout Leader, Bill volunteered for about 15 years in various adult leadership positions. He has worked on Scout District and Council staffs for adult leader training and earned adult Order of the Arrow, Woodbadge and the District Award of Merit.

In addition to RARA, Bill is also an ARRL, FISTS and RRRRA member.

TREASURER:

Dick Goslee, K2VCZ

First licensed in 1956 as KN2VCZ, Dick holds an Extra class license. He has been a member of RARA for 21 years and has served on the Board of Directors for the last 18 years. He is a past President and has been serving as RARA Treasurer since 1987. He taught theory for the Novice/Tech class for RARA for 5 years and has also taught the Advanced class. Dick is the Editor of the annual RARA Directory, and is a member of the K2JD Engraving Team.

Dick is employed as the Director of Engineering for Quality Protections Systems, a manufacturer of Lightning Warning Systems for golf courses, and combining his love of Drag Racing with employment he is also employed as an IHRA Certified Technical Inspector and the Chief Starter at NY International Raceway Park, in Leicester, NY, and he also works at Norwalk Raceway Park in Norwalk, Ohio. In addition Dick is an Associate Editor of "Drag Racing News" a monthly publication. When he can find some free time he enjoys working on his new hilltop cabin (around the corner from the VHF Group contest site, but 50 ft. higher) with his wife Susan (N2HKA) and his daughters Karen (KB2CHE) and Cathie (KB2ESZ).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Dale Fravel, N2LWY

I was born in Rochester and currently living in the town of Greece. I am married with a 13-year-old son and enjoy spending time with my family and as a soccer dad. Graduated from

Greece Olympia high school and We-Mo-Co Occupational School in Spencerport with a major in electronics and model shop.

I have been interested in electronics and radio for over 30 years, starting with short-wave and CB radio. Moved into commercial two-way radios and on into ham radio, obtaining Tech license in 1991 and upgraded to General license in 2000. Third generation amateur with a large family history of amateur radio, including my grandfather, W2COJ, who operated from the 1930's to early 1950's, and my dad who is currently N2OTC. A lot of aunts, uncles and cousins are also involved in the hobby.

Past employers include Tel-Page, ENI, Scientific Radio System, and Eastman Kodak. Currently employed for the last 21 years at Harris RF Communications Division. Within Harris, have held various positions including Factory Technician, Field Specialist, and currently as a Senior Customer Service Technical Representative. As a Field Specialist, spent over 10 years traveling worldwide installing, repairing and customer training on HF, VHF and UHF communications equipment and systems. As a Technical Representative I troubleshoot, repair HF, VHF and UHF radio equipment and associated equipment. Over the years I have worked on everything from dc to light, from microwatts to 10 kilowatts.

I'm a railroad enthusiast spending time trackside and as a volunteer at the local NHRS museum, and Webmaster for the rochester.railfan.net and n2lwy.com Internet sites. Currently running two 440 repeaters, N2OTC and W2RFC and former owner of the N2LWY Greece two-meter repeater.

Greg Michels, KC2GXV

I am pleased to be nominated for election to the Board of Directors of RARA. I have been very impressed with the activity within the club and would like to ensure it continues with Radio Coaches, the license classes, the many public service activities, and other existing programs.

My strongest interests within amateur radio are in NTS, public service, and emergency communications. I received my license in the fall of 2000 after using FRS radios with a long time ham to perform resupply stops for a friend participating in the General Clinton's 70-mile canoe race on the Susquehanna River. I enjoy

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using amateur radio to accomplish a specific mission, which helps people. It is in this spirit that I would like to bring a few ideas to members who would like to maintain and improve their tactical communication skills and equipment preparedness on a regular basis. I took the online version of ARRL's Level I Emergency Communication Course last fall and found it very informative. If enough amateurs are interested I would like to bring the classroom version of this course to our area. I would also like to organize forums and/or workshops potentially in conjunction with other area ARES/RACES groups to share ideas about portable emergency communication equipment and readiness.

So I hope you will consider me for election to your board of directors.

Jack Tripp, W2JAT

I have been married for 41 years to my wife Marilyn, have 4 children, 7 grandchildren, all of whom are living in the Rochester area. I am retired and have been a ham for 9 ½ years getting my Extra Class license last November. This gives me lots of time to play radio and computer. I am active on VHF, HF, and packet. I have participated in several public service events, Pumpkin Patrol, Ginna Drill, and Walnut Hill Horse Carriage Driving Competition. In the past I helped in the Radio Coaches program and still help on occasion. For the Hamfest I have been a Holdsworth Coolie and was Chairman for advanced tickets sales for four years. I am editor of the RAP-Sheet, the newsletter of RAPS, Rochester Amateur Packet Society and am on the RARA Board of Directors completing my sixth term of office. I hope you will re-elect me for another term.

Keith Freeberg, N2BEL

Keith has served RARA since 1980 in many capacities including two terms as President. Keith's focus continues to be on public service and youth oriented outreach. Under his guidance as Director for Youth Programs, the Radio Coaches Program (a premier program nationally) is just ending its seventh semester of service to Rochester Middle Schools. New this year is the Ham Radio Venture Group, serving youth 14 - 20, and is showing a bright future.

Each of these programs owes its existence to the fine men and women of Amateur Radio who have donated an hour here and there (totaling many hours) to keep these programs operating. Thank You!

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

I have lived in the town of Mendon since I was released from active duty with the Navy in 1954. Joyce and I have five sons, four who live in this area and one that lives with his family in Western Colorado.

I was first licensed in 1968 with the call WN2EKR and now hold the Extra class license with the call N2EH. I have been active in RARA since I got my first license and have served RARA for the past thirty-one years. I have served as Secretary, Vice-President and President and have been on the Board of Directors for thirty years. I have assisted with the license class since I was first licensed, first as an assistant and then as director for several years. I also planned and coordinated several camping weekends each year during the 1970's and 1980's when we had more activities than we presently have. I am presently the Assistant General Chairman of the Rochester Hamfest and have worked on the Hamfest for the past thirty-two years. I am also the Emergency Coordinator for ARES and the RACES Radio Officer for Monroe County. I am the trustee of our club station K2JD, a post that I have held since 1971. The station has grown over the years since it got the first piece of equipment, a Heathkit HW-16. It now has two HF stations, one 6 Meter station, 6 VHF stations on 2 meters, 220 and 450, 4 packet stations and an ATV repeater. The station now includes the new location at the new EOC on Scottsville Road as well as the original station at 111 Westfall Road. There is also, a great deal of peripheral gear at these locations. I am also a life member of RARA, ARRL, Amsat, as well as a member of QCWA.

George Masny, KA2GPJ

Currently a General Class licensee, George has managed to keep this call active since 1975 in spite of being married and helping his wife raise 3 wonderful kids. He has been fiddling with radios since 1957, when he used a toilet paper roll core to wind the coil for a crystal set. The radio worked great — it picked up a lot of Spanish speaking stations. Of course it helped

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that he was living in Buenos Aires at the time... His first ham radio experience was in 1965 when a neighborhood Elmer in NYC introduced him to the joys of working DX on 15 and chewing the rag on 2M AM using a Benton Harbor lunch box. The digital modes have been his primary interest, and in the past 15 years or so, he has been maintaining the Kodak Park node (KPARK) and BBS (WB2WXQ). He is currently the last elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Kodak Park Amateur Radio Club, a member of the Rochester Amateur Packet Society and the trustee for the APRS digipeater KB2WYA. He has served as a member of the RARA Board of Directors last year, and still being a rookie at it but would like another chance to improve his performance.

Robert Krenzer, KC2FNE

I was first licensed in 1999 at the Buffalo Hamfest, where I got my Tech, No Code license. I now hold an Extra Class license thanks to the RARA License Classes and the instructors. I just recently got my Worked All States and DXCC award.

I was raised and still reside in Henrietta. I am single so that gives me plenty of time for ham radio. I work at a local printing company as a press operator.

I got introduced to ham radio from a local ham that's a friend of mine, "Chris, KC2FFS". He showed me his radios and what you can do with them and I was amazed. I started out with a handheld and then got a mobile rig to be able to use the local repeaters. I then got an HF radio for the shack and started to work DX. That's all it took and I was hooked.

I try to make it to all the RARA meetings. Some of you know me from the meetings or RARA classes and others I have talked to on the air. I would like to be a Board member so I can give something back to RARA like they gave to me in the classes and meetings. I know I can learn a lot and give a lot from being a Board member. I would think and come up with new ways to improve the club. I would, also, suggest new ideas for the club. I don't have the years of experience as many of you but overtime and being a Board member I would gain the experience. I would like to

help others become hams. I enjoy being a ham and think others would too. So with being a Board member I can hopefully make a difference.

Thank you for considering me for the seat on the Board of Directors. 73 and good DXing.

Ed Schmitt, KC2ISI

Ed is one of our newer hams obtaining his Technician class license in November of 2001. Being new to this hobby allows him to look at things with new and different views. This is an advantage to him while looking at serving RARA and its members.

On top of having new ideas on things, Ed also has a 20-plus year career that encompasses operations management, technical sales and marketing, and managing capital projects. He has been on the Board of Directors — Rochester International Marine Tattoo where he negotiated sponsorship and provided operation support for this international recognized musical event. He also has been Operations and Logistical Consultant for The Empire Statesmen Drum and Bugle Corps; Producer/Stage Manager "The Executive Breakfast Club" — WEZO Radio 950 AM; and Operations Consultant/Public Relations Consultant for E&E Motorsports, Inc.

With this type of background, Ed feels that he will be a great asset in helping lead RARA for the next season.

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